

Kinship and language documentation in Bhutan

3rd International Conference on Language Documentation &
Conservation University of Hawai'i
February 28-March 3, 2013

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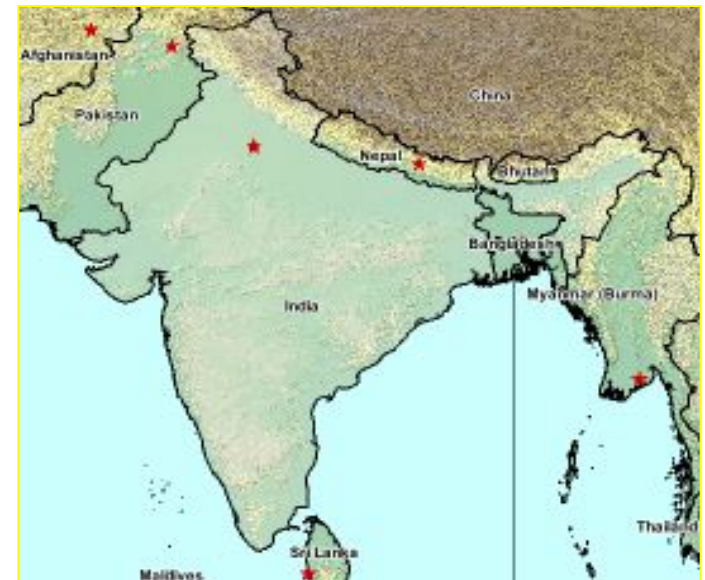
Outline

- Introduction to: Bhutan and its languages
- Brief description of Dzongkha
- Kinship charts comparing kinship terms in Dzongkha and Chöke
- Conclusion

Where is Bhutan?



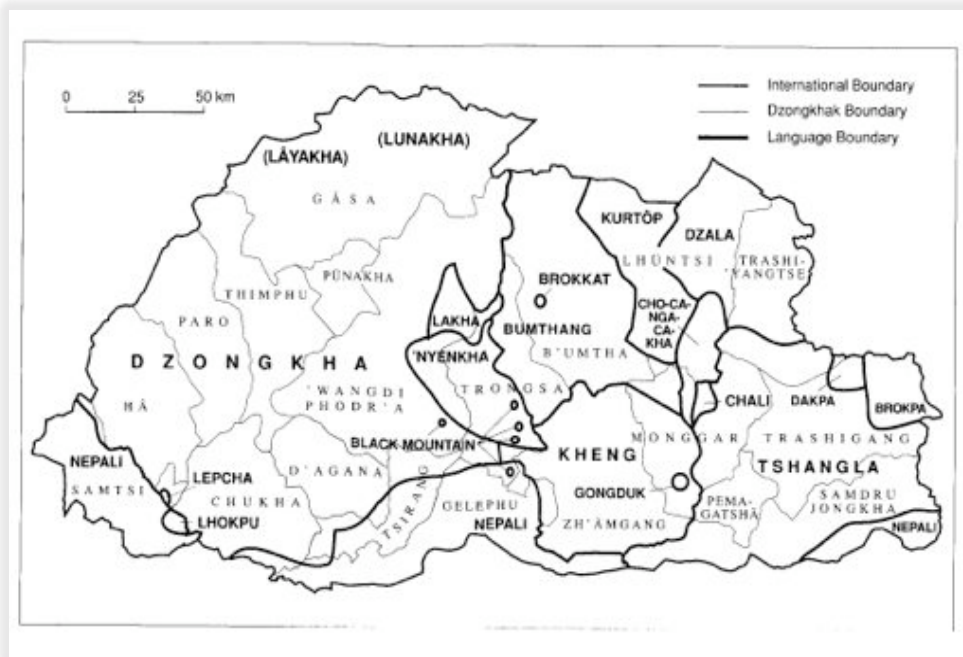
In South Asia



<http://worldmap.org/maps/interactive/IN.jpg>

<http://schmitzky.deviantart.com/art/World-Map-with-Grid-74061087>

Bhutan



In the Himalayas, south of Tibet & north of north-east India



Courtesy of George van Driem

Looking towards north



At around 4500m



At around 2000m



Northern & southern:



Languages spoken in Bhutan:

<u>Language</u>	<u>Number of Speakers</u>
Dzongkha	160,000
Chocangaca	20,000
Brokkat	300
Brokpa	5,000
Black Mountain Ole	1,000
Phobjikha	10,000
Khengkha	40,000
Bumthap	30,000
Kurtöp	10,000
Dzala	15,000
Dakpa	1,000
Tshangla	138,000
Lhokpu	2,500
Lepcha	2,000
Gongduk	2,000

van Driem (1998)

Dzongkha speaking area



Varieties of Dzongkha; dialects of 'Ngalobi-kha:

- Layap: northwestern region in Laya/Lingzhi
- Lunap: northeastern region in Lunana
- Wang: central region in Thimphu
- Thê, Pünap: central region in Punakha
- D'agap: southwestern region in D'agana
- Chukha: southeastern region in Chukha
- Shâ: eastern region in Wangdi
- Hâp/Parop: western region in Hâ and Paro, and
- Dränjop (in the neighboring state of Sikkim)

Although linguists consider Dzongkha a dialect of Tibetan, (e.g. Tournadre 2008).

The distinction between Chöke and Dzongkha is greater than we think:

- Phonology or the sound system is different
- No systematic one-to-one correspondence between Chöke and Dzongkha
- Dzongkha has more sounds than Chöke: devoiced and retroflex stops
- Dzongkha has more vowels: nasalization and different vowel lengths
- Dzongkha also has tones: high, low, level and falling tonal contours
- Tibetan and Dzongkha are not mutually intelligible

Kinship Documentation

- Data collected on Dzongkha:
 - Native speaker intuition
 - Consultation with native speakers from different regions
 - Part of large study, examining kinship in Bhutan
 - In this talk, Dzongkha data are compared with Tibetan data

Kinship chart 1:

	Kinship	Shâ	Wang	Tibetan	Lhop
+3	FFF	'age	'age	<i>phai phai pha</i>	<i>tâ</i>
+3	MMM	'angge	'angge	<i>mai mai ma</i>	<i>yâ</i>
+2	FF, MF	'age	'age	<i>powo, mespo, pahi pha, mai pha</i>	<i>tâ</i>
+2	MM, FM	'angge	'angge	<i>rmowo, aphyi, mai ma, phai ma</i>	<i>yâ</i>
+1	F	'apa	'apa	<i>pha</i>	<i>payo</i>
+1	M	'ama	'ai	<i>ma, ama</i>	<i>mayo</i>

Kinship chart 2:

	Kinship	Shâ	Wang	Tibetan	Lhop
+1	FB	<i>'akhu</i>	<i>'aku</i>	<i>akhu, phai spun</i>	<i>pang</i>
+1	FZ	<i>'ani</i>	<i>'amcu</i>	<i>ane, nene, phai spunmo</i>	<i>nî</i>
+1	MB	<i>'azha</i>	<i>'azha</i>	<i>azhang, zhangpo, mai spun</i>	<i>kû</i>
+1	MZ	<i>'amcu</i>	<i>'ani</i>	<i>ane, nene, mai spun</i>	<i>yû</i>

Kinship chart 3:

	Kinship	Shâ	Wang	Tibetan	Lhop
+1	HF	'apa	'apa	<i>gyospo, khyoi pha</i>	<i>tâ</i>
+1	HM	'ama	'ai	<i>gyosmo, khyoi ma</i>	<i>yâ</i>
+1	WF	'apa	'apa	<i>gyospo, chungmai pha</i>	<i>tâ</i>
+1	WM	'ama	'ai	<i>gyosmo, chungmai ma</i>	<i>yâ</i>
+1	F (step-)	'akhu	'aku	<i>pha gyar</i>	<i>pang</i>
+1	M (step-)	'amcu	'amcum	<i>ma gyar</i>	<i>yû</i>
+1	MBW	'ani	'ani	<i>ane</i>	<i>nî</i>
+1	FBW	'ani	'ani	<i>ane</i>	<i>yû</i>
+1	FZH	'akhu	'aku	<i>akhu, anei khyo</i>	<i>kû</i>
+1	MZH	'akhu	'aku	<i>akhu, anei khyo</i>	<i>pang</i>

Kinship chart 4:

	Kinship	Shâ	Wang	Tibetan	Lhop
0	Sibling	<i>pincha</i>	<i>pincha</i>	<i>spun</i>	<i>putsa natsa</i>
0	eB, FBS (e), MZS (e)	'aco	<i>phôgem</i> , 'au	<i>gcenpo</i> , <i>phaspun</i> , <i>maspun</i>	<i>pu?</i>
0	FZS (e), eZH, HeB, WeB	'aco	<i>phôgem</i> , 'au, <i>küp</i>	<i>gcenpo</i> , <i>ajo</i>	<i>pu?</i>
0	yB, FBS (y), MZS (y)	<i>nucu</i>	<i>nucu</i>	<i>gcungpo</i>	<i>bungpa</i> , <i>tsâ</i>
0	yZH, HyB, WyB	<i>nucu</i>	<i>küp</i>	<i>skudpo</i>	<i>makpa</i> , <i>tsâ</i>
0	WSH	'mâro	'mâro	?	?

Kinship chart 5:

	Kinship	Shâ	Wang	Tibetan	Lhop
0	eZ, FBD (e), MZD (e)	'azhi	'azhim	ace, gcenmo	na?
0	FZD (e), MBD (e), eBW, HeZ, WeZ	'azhi	'azhim	ace, gcenmo	na?
0	yZ, FBD (y)	sim, num	sim, num	gcungmo	tringma, tsâ
0	FZD (y), MBD (y)	sim, num	sim, num	gcungmo	tsâ
0	yBW, HyZ	sim, num	sim, num	mnama, ?	nama, tsâ

Kinship chart 6:

	Kinship	Shâ	Wang	Tibetan	Lhop
0	H	<i>'map</i>	<i>'map</i>	<i>khyo, makpa</i>	<i>'âmank, drangmha, râhin</i>
0	W	<i>'amtshu</i>	<i>'amtshu, 'näm</i>	<i>chungma, skyes dman</i>	<i>'âmank, 'mehin</i>

Kinship chart 7:

	Kinship	Shâ	Wang	Tibetan	Lhop
-1	C	<i>b'utshu</i>	<i>'alu</i>	<i>butsha, phrugu</i>	<i>tsan</i>
-1	S	<i>b'u</i>	<i>b'u</i>	<i>bu</i>	<i>râtsan</i>
-1	D	<i>b'um</i>	<i>b'um</i>	<i>bumo</i>	<i>'mettsan</i>
-1	DH	<i>'map</i>	<i>'map</i>	<i>makpa</i>	<i>makpa</i>
-1	SW	<i>'nam</i>	<i>'nam</i>	<i>mnama</i>	<i>nama</i>
-1	BD	<i>tsham</i>	<i>tsham</i>	<i>tshamo</i>	<i>tsan'met</i>
-1	ZD	<i>tsham</i>	<i>tsham</i>	<i>tshamo</i>	<i>lhi'met</i>
-1	BS	<i>tshô</i>	<i>tshô</i>	<i>tshabo</i>	<i>tsandra</i>
-1	ZS	<i>tshô</i>	<i>tshô</i>	<i>tshabo</i>	<i>lhiira</i>

Kinship chart 8:

	Kinship	Shâ	Wang	Tibetan	Lhop
-2	SS, DS	<i>d'apchu,</i> <i>tshô</i>	<i>tshô,</i> <i>b'ugi b'u,</i> <i>b'umi b'u</i>	<i>tshabo,</i> <i>bui phrugu,</i> <i>bumoi phrugu</i>	<i>tsû</i>
-2	DD, SD	<i>d'eb'um,</i> <i>tsham</i>	<i>tsham,</i> <i>b'umi b'um,</i> <i>b'ugi b'um</i>	<i>tshamo,</i> <i>bumoi phrugu,</i> <i>bui phrugu</i>	<i>tsû'met</i>
-3	DDD, DDS	<i>tshamcu,</i> <i>tshôcu</i>	<i>tshamcu,</i> <i>tshôcu, or</i> <i>reduplicate</i>	<i>yangtsha,</i> <i>tshamoi phrugu</i>	<i>tsu ka tsu</i>

Conclusions

- Dzongkha has a rich system of kinship that is similar to Tibetan but different in interesting ways.
 - Similarities: most forms are cognate
 - Similarities: almost all categories are shared between Dzongkha and Tibetan
 - Difference: For example, Tibetan has no *'mâro* relationship



- The difference raises an interesting question: is there something about the culture or history of Dzongkha speakers versus Tibetan speakers that helps create this difference?
 - Dzongkha speakers tend to be matrilineal and matrilocal while Tibetans are patrilineal and patrilocal...

Conclusions

- Dzongkha is more than just a “dialect of Tibetan”
- Documentation of kinship can reveal important information about the people who speak the language



Trashi-Dele!

Thank you!

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